

The China Mail.

Established February, 1846.

Vol. XI. No. 6569.

號三十月八年四十八百八千一英

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13, 1884.

日三十月六年申甲

PRICE, \$2 PER MONTH.

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON.—F. ALCOCK, 11 & 12, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street, E.C. 4. GORDON & GORCH, Ludgate Circus, E.C. 4. BAYNE & CO., 57, St. Walbrook, E.C. 4. SAMPSON, Lowndes Street, W. 1. 184, Leadenhall Street.

PARIS AND EUROPE.—GARDNER & PRINCE, 38, Rue Lafayette, Paris.

NEW YORK.—ANDREW WIND, 21, Park Row.

AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW ZEALAND.—GORDON & GORCH, Melbourne and Sydney.

SAN FRANCISCO and American Ports generally.—BRAN & BLACK, San Francisco.

SINGAPORE, STRAITS, &c.—SAYLE & CO., Singapore. C. HARRISON & Co., Malacca.

CHINA.—Messrs. A. A. B. MELLO & Co., Swatow, Amoy, &c. & Co. Amoy, Waiwan, &c. & Co. Foochow, HEDDER & Co., Shanghai, LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., and KELLY & WATSON, Yokohama, Kobe, Onagawa, &c.

Banks.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL.—\$7,500,000.

RESERVE FUND.—\$4,354,915.

COURT OF DIRECTORS.

Chairman.—A. P. McLEWEN, Esq.

Deputy Chairman.—Hon. F. D. SARSON.

C. D. BOTTOMLEY, Esq.

H. L. DALRYMPLE, Esq.

W. H. FORBES, Esq.

Chief Manager.

Hongkong, THOMAS JACKSON, Esq.

Shanghai, SWAN CAMERON, Esq.

LONDON, BANKERS, and Country Bank.

HONGKONG.

INTEREST ALLOWED.

On Current Deposit—Account at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

For Fixed Deposits.

For 3 months, 3 per cent. per annum.

For 6 months, 4 per cent. per annum.

For 12 months, 5 per cent. per annum.

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

Credit granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Drafts granted on London, and the chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.

Hongkong, July 14, 1884. 1161

NOTICE.

RULES OF THE HONGKONG SAVINGS' BANK.

1.—The business of the above Bank will be conducted by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, on their premises in Hongkong. Business hours on week-days, 10 to 3; Saturdays, 10 to 1.

2.—The Assets of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation will form a direct security for the repayment of sums deposited in the above Bank.

3.—Sums less than \$1, or more than \$250 at one time will not be received. No depositor may deposit more than \$1,500 in any one year.

4.—Deposits may be on behalf of relations, of friends, &c., in addition to the depositor's own account.

5.—Persons desiring to save sums less than a dollar may do so by placing clean ten-cent stamps to a form to be obtained at the Bank or at the Post Office. When the form is presented with ten clean stamps the depositor will be credited one dollar.

6.—Depositors in the Savings Bank having \$100 or more at their credit may at their option transfer the same to the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation on fixed deposit for 12 months at 5 per cent. per annum interest.

7.—Deposits may be forwarded from the Bank by means of clean Hongkong Postage Stamps of any value.

8.—Interest at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum will be allowed to depositors on their daily balances.

9.—Each Depositor will be supplied gratis with a Pass-Book which must be produced with each payment or withdrawal. Depositors must not make any entries themselves in their Pass-Book but should send them to be written up at least twice a year, at the beginning of January and beginning of July.

10.—Cover containing Pass-Books, Registered Letters containing Stamps or other Remittances, and generally, correspondence as to the business of the Bank will, if marked "On Hongkong Savings Bank Business," be forwarded free of Postage or Registration Fees by the various British Post Offices in Hongkong and China.

11.—Withdrawals may be made on demand, but the personal attendance of the depositor or his duly appointed agent, and the production of his Pass-Book are necessary.

12.—All documents connected with the business of the "Savings" Bank are exempt from stamp duty.

For the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.

Hongkong, April 25, 1884. 715

WITH Reference to the above, BUSINESS will be commenced on the 1st MAY, 1884.

For the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.

Hongkong, April 25, 1884. 716

Intimations.

Chinese Imperial Government Eight per Cent. Loan of 1878.

ELEVENTH AND FINAL DRAWING.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that, in conformity with the stipulation contained in the Bonds of this Loan, the following Numbers of Bonds to be paid off at the Office of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, in Hongkong, and Shanghai, on the 5th day of August, 1884, when the Interest thereon will cease to be Payable, were this day Drawn at the Office of the said Corporation in Hongkong, in the presence of Mr. HENRY LUTHERAL, Esquire, Acting Chief Accountant of the said Corporation, and of the undersigned Notary.

NUMBERS OF BONDS DRAWN.

324 Bonds Nos.:

Nos.	Nos.	Nos.	Nos.
6	731	1370	2057
39	769	1371	2070
49	774	1374	2071
51	780	1376	2093
63	790	1428	2111
72	804	1430	2112
88	805	1439	2139
90	808	1441	2145
93	814	1445	2146
95	818	1460	2155
99	821	1463	2158
124	857	1469	2173
133	876	1471	2182
155	886	1473	2195
172	890	1474	2204
176	898	1475	2223
191	897	1484	2236
192	900	1490	2247
193	901	1499	2258
199	905	1503	2290
206	926	1507	2320
218	932	1516	2331
248	933	1551	2349
264	934	1564	2358
274	935	1576	2369
313	940	1579	2375
310	953	1589	2395
318	955	1591	2411
320	956	1633	2420
325	959	1607	2436
337	973	1674	2443
337	990	1677	2462
374	1004	1681	2463
382	1014	1688	2468
407	1040	1698	2498
412	1062	1703	2577
449	1074	1711	2594
463	1073	1719	2606
474	1067	1717	2612
487	1117	1741	2613
489	1182	1745	2618
503	1183	1761	2646
508	1183	1772	2651
515	1184	1782	2664
520	1199	1785	2668
534	1171	1787	2669
547	1179	1816	2675
553	1188	1838	2691
564	1194	1857	2693
578	1195	1864	2694
579	1204	1875	2711
585	1213	1879	2727
595	1234	1886	2743
616	1238	1901	2745
630	1254	1928	2753
632	1260	1929	2755
644	1280	1936	2778
664	1297	1966	2784
675	1307	1981	2788
680	1318	1986	2793
704	1320	2003	2799
711	1354	2026	2820
717	1355	2045	2845
721	1364	2050	2850
729	1365	2053	2877

For Shanghai Teas 500 each—Shanghai Teas 162,000.

For the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

HENRY L. COOMBS, Acting Chief Accountant.

Counter-signed, A. D. JOHNSON, Notary Public, Hongkong.

Hongkong, 4th day of July, 1884. 1320

CHINESE IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT LOAN OF 1878.

THE INTEREST due 5th day of August current of the above LOAN, together with the BONDS DRAWN for Redemption, will be Paid at the Office of this Corporation on and after that date.

For the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

Agents for the Loan, T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.

Hongkong, August 8, 1884. 1321

DRY DOCK AND PATENT SLIP, NAGASAKI.

THE Undersigned have been appointed Agents for THE IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT DOCK AND PATENT SLIP, at Nagasaki, and are prepared to supply Tenders for the Repairing, Cleaning, Painting, &c., of Vessels. The Dock works in connection with the Dockyard are under the direction of experienced Engineers and possess all the necessary appliances for Repairs to Ships and Machinery.

HOLME, RINGER & Co.

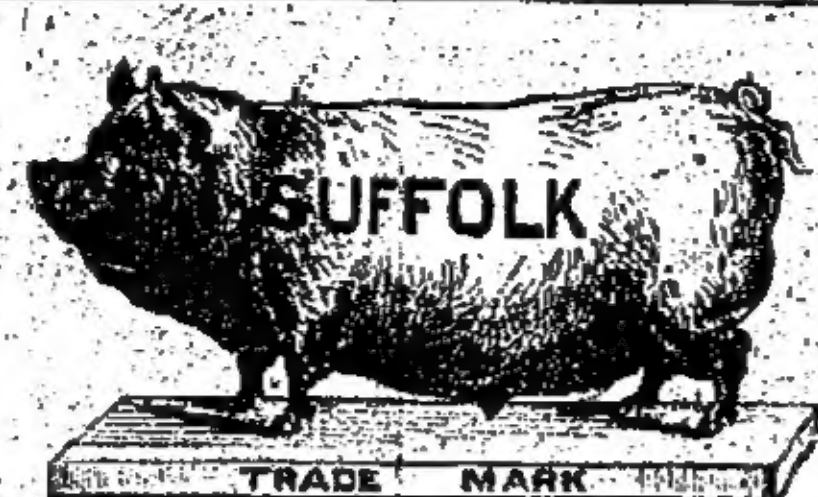
Nagasaki, March, 1884. 645

For Sale.

FOR SALE.

EX 'GLAMIS CASTLE,'

A FRESH CONSIGNMENT OF



EDWARD BEART'S
CELEBRATED HOME CURED
SUFFOLK
HAMS, BACON, &c.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

Hongkong, August 3, 1884. 1298

NOTICE.

SAYLE & Co. beg to inform their Customers and the Public in general that in consequence of the Death of the SENIOR PARTNER, the BUSINESS carried on in Hongkong will be CLOSED

On or before the 31st day of August Next,

AND THE WHOLE OF THE STOCK is now offered at a REDUCTION of 25 per Cent. on the Marked Prices.

Special terms will be made for parcels of Goods over \$100 in value purchased at one time.

All Sales from this date will be for Cash only. Customers are requested to make immediate Payment of Amounts due by them to the late Firm.

SAYLE & Co.,
VICTORIA EXCHANGE, HONGKONG.

Hongkong, June 9, 1884. 551

OVERSTRUNG TRI-CORNER COTTAGE

PIANOS,

by NEUMEYER & Co., WEIDENSLAUER & ROSENKRANZ.

Specially manufactured for this climate.

COMPLETE IRON FRAME AND TUNING PLATE.

Unrivalled for Brilliance and Sweetness of Tone.

FINEST TOUCH.

Price for Cash, from ... \$230 to \$250.
On Hire, per month, from ... \$15 to \$20.

Special attention is called to the fact that after having hired a Piano for 14 months, it will become without further payment the property of the hirer.

INSPECTION SOLICITED.

Apply to Prof. A. VITA,
4, Old Bailey Street.

Hongkong, July 14, 1884. 1160

Intimations.

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE Ordinary Half-Yearly MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS will be held in the Office of the Company, No. 14, Praya Central, at 3 o'clock p.m. on MONDAY, the 18th Instant, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors, and a Statement of Accounts for 30th June, 1884.

The Transfer BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 15th to the 18th Instant, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors, D. GILLIES, Secretary.

Hongkong, August 1, 1884. 1273

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Ordinary Half-Yearly MEETING of the SHAREHOLDERS in this Corporation will be held at the Office of the Corporation, on MONDAY, the 25th day of August, current, at THREE O'CLOCK p.m., for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Court of Directors, together with a Statement of Accounts to 30th June, 1884.

By Order of the Court of Directors, T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.

Hongkong, August 1, 1884. 1267

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

NOTICE is hereby given that the REGISTERS of SHARES of the Corporation will be CLOSED from the 11th to the 25th August current (both days inclusive) during which period no Transfer of Shares can be registered.

By Order of the Court of Directors, T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.

Hongkong, August 1, 1884. 1268

Intimations.

D. K. GRIFFITH & Co.

MANUFACTURERS OF LONDON AERATED WATERS.

Have Removed from the BRANFORD ARCADE to larger Premises

1, DUDDLE STREET.

Where they continue to supply:

SODA WATER, LEMONADE, GINGER-BEER, RASPBERRY, &c., &c., &c.

At the same Moderate Charges.

D. K. GRIFFITH, Proprietor.

Hongkong, July 28, 1884. 1249

CONSULAR NOTIFICATION.

PERU CONSULATE, Hongkong, 6th August, 1884.

SHIPPERS to the PORTS of PERU are required to Present to the Consul, at the time of shipment, a Bill of Lading in triplicate, as follows:

1. The name of the Shipper, Destination, and name of the Person to whom the Goods are Consigned, or, if they are to order, the Port of Destination and name of the Ship.

2. The Mark, Number, Description, Quantity, and Gross Weight of each package.

3. The Total value of the Shipment without details respecting each package.

One Copy of Bill of Lading will be retained at this Consulate, to be forwarded to Peru.

Goods forwarded to any other Port, and transhipment to Peru, require certified Bill of Lading and Manifest from this Consulate.

J. GRANT SMITH, Consul for Peru.

Intimations.

NOTICE.

LESSEES of LOTS in the British Settlement of HONGKONG, CANTON, are hereby requested to Pay the AMOUNTS due on their Several Lots as ANNUAL GROUND RENT into H. M. CONSULATE, on or before the 4th September, 1884. All Lots on which Ground Rent has not been paid on the 4th September next, will be liable to be re-enclosed upon by H. M. Government.

H. F. HANCE, Acting Consul.

H. M. Consulate, Canton, 11th August, 1884. 1347

THE HONGKONG & CHINA TRAMWAYS COMPANY, LIMITED.

CAPITAL, 500,000 DOLLARS.

In 10,000 Shares of \$50 each, \$5 payable on Application, \$10 on Allotment, and the Remainder by Calls as required.

Provisional Committee:

The Hon. W. KESWICK (Chairman).

The Hon. T. JACKSON.

The Hon. F. D. SARSON.

C. P. CHATER, Esq.

W. H. FORBES, Esq.

W. C. HUGHES, Esq.

A. B. JOHNSON, Esq.

J. A. MOSELEY, Esq.

W. WOTTON, Esq.

Engineers:

Wm. DANBY, Esq., M. Inst. C.E.

R. K. LEIGH, Esq., Assoc. M. Inst. C.E.

Surveyors:

Messrs. BRERETON, WOTTON AND DEACON.

Temporary Offices:

13, PRAYA CENTRAL, HONGKONG.

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS.

THE Company has been formed for the purpose of constructing, equipping, and working a series of Low Level Steam Tramways in the City of Victoria, Hongkong.

Two Special Ordinances (Nos. 6 and 18 of 1883) have been passed by the Legislative Council and the Government authorizing the construction and working of the same.

Victoria is very favourably adapted for Tramways, owing to its configuration, the easy gradients of the principal streets, (the main thoroughfare from the East to the West ends, along which the Tramways will be laid), and the immense incessant traffic.

The Tramways will be constructed in the best and most substantial manner, and with all the latest improvements, with steel girder rails, bedded in concrete, but no wood or other perishable material will be used.

The Tramways are intended to be worked by Steam Traction, which being much more economical, trustworthy, and under more effective control, having more power of overcoming gradients, and giving better results (pecuniary and otherwise) than horse, compressed air, electricity or other motive power.

The engines will be constructed according to the Board of Trade regulations and will in no way be a nuisance, being almost noiseless, and having no machinery, smoke, or steam visible.

The Committee anticipate, from the relatively low cost per mile of the projected Tramways, combined with other numerous advantages connected with the undertaking, that the dividend returns will be satisfactory.

There is no agreement or contract in existence affecting this undertaking.

Plans and Estimates may be seen at the Office, and the full Prospectus and Form of Application for Shares and every other information may be obtained from

THE SECRETARY AND ENGINEERS, No. 13, PRAYA CENTRAL, HONGKONG.

Applications for SHARES will be Received until the 30th SEPTEMBER.

Hongkong, August 7, 1884. 1319

Auctions.

SAYLE & Co. will Sell by Public Auction, on

MONDAY,

the 18th, and

THURSDAY,

the 21st Instant, respectively, commencing at 9 o'clock each day, at the

'VICTORIA EXCHANGE,'

taunted charity, is very good, but, happily, it is the deserving that it is discriminating charity fails to reach, fails to know. For their poor co-religionists, we believe the Jews and Poles have funds at their disposal. The "St. Andrew's Society," after its gift enquiry, has assisted to employment men hailing from the North of the Tweed, who as a rule have been sought out by members of the Society. As yet there is no St. George's Society, but we have hopes that the Englishmen of this Colony will soon follow in the line of the Great Society of the Sons of St. George, recently founded in the United States, whose chief object is to relieve respectable Englishmen whenever found in a state of destitution.

Our foreign poor appear to spring from all classes of the community. We have heard of one who spent his time in gaol—where he had been sent as a vagabond having no visible means of subsistence—over a well-timed pocket party of horses. Clerks, hearing of papyrus trees with golden fruit, arrive from no one knows where, and find themselves competing with Portuguese lads for a pittance hardly sufficient to keep an Englishman's body and soul together, and arrive, allied by ignorance and false hopes, find their trades fully occupied by the Chinese.

With the largest section of our community, legislation may very wisely left well alone. The doctrine of filial piety, added to the strong family feeling and clanishness existing among the Chinese, have been existing under a system of relief for the old and helpless far more effective than our costly and elaborate poor law boards and unions at home. Outside the professional beggars, there are very few starving poor to be seen, as among ourselves, none are so good to the poor as the poor. Our readers must have been struck more than once with the few changes in the lives of our Chinese friends that a great typhoon, as in 1874, or any of the great fires that at intervals have desolated the city, have effected. Even among this migratory population, the Chinese system works well, though it sits loosely and is only enforced by "elo custom" and public opinion, and not by law. It would be very unwise to interfere with it in any way so as to destroy this honourable sentiment; otherwise, many of our system would only pauperise the people and throw open the flood gates of corruption and gross abuse. As it is, nothing that we can do, so well and smoothly serve its purpose.

From what has been said above, it will be inferred that we think it possible that if national societies for affording relief to compatriots (as well as for keeping up the national sentiment) were formed, their organization would be enough to provide for such casual and local cases of destitution as come in their way. But there is a wider consideration, and there is a fresh difficulty. How are we to maintain our poor, *pari passu*, that are growing up around us, and provide for the stream of ocean transients that would be attracted to our shores by such a course of action, in addition to those that our kindly disposed friends at the Coast Ports, at Macao, at Japan, so very considerably show upon us? Experience has shown that in these cases, bad conduct more than bad luck has driven them to our shores. The funds of any society, however wealthy, could not meet a tide of these cases, and, besides, thoughtless and indiscriminate charity and the doler system produces all the evils it tries to relieve. The workhouse system, as pursued at home, is utterly out of the question, being entirely unsuited to the conditions of life here. A workhouse would only induce all the evil and misery that would flow from the workhouse system, for here, as in other parts of the world, there are always men, the work, trying to keep labour and to live at other people's expense.

The question simply is how can we maintain our own poor and provide against being imposed upon by our neighbours, placing their responsibilities for the maintenance of the destitute in a recognition of the English law as an imperative duty. We think that this could be done by the passing of an ordinance making ships through their agents, responsible for the expenses incurred by the Government for their maintenance, and for the penalties for failure to pay. Some such law we believe exists at Calcutta, Singapore, North Borneo, the Dutch Indies and Saigon. The Australian Colonies send back their bad transients to the place whence they come. Hongkong in this matter is defenceless. An ordinance of this character would also have the effect of preventing any scrupulous ship captains rushing their crews ashore as so frequently done. His crew, as we suppose, has been shipped at some port where labour is dear, for example, San Francisco, or Sydney. It is clearly then to the Captain's disadvantage to get rid of this expensive crew, especially if he has a time to wait before he gets his charter or fills up before sailing. It is not probable that a third of the old wages, and sometimes gets men for nothing at all. There is no smoke without fire, and we have no doubt that this brief explanation accounts for a great deal of the trouble which occasionally rises from many sailing ships. It is in the stream, it is certainly a source of trouble for the numbers of homeless, half-starved, and filthy men, who are left on the streets, and who are utterly without any means of support. By keeping off shipwreckers, this ordinance would reduce our poor to manageable dimensions. As regards the able-bodied poor, who would rather eat the bread of idleness doled out by the State than the bread of honest industry, it would be well to make the system of relief as unattractive as possible. The law of New York, which, admirably suited to the cases of our third class, deserves here. We might add that the workhouse in New York is regarded as a penal institution. When an able-bodied person applies for relief, he is required as a condition of obtaining it

to endorse an order for admission to the workhouse. The following is the form:—
The Superintendent of the Workhouse will receive C. D., native of E., who stands committed to the Workhouse for G. months. Aged — Years — Months. Cause, destitute.

(Signed) A. B.,
Commissioner of Public Charities and Correction,
Department of Public Charities and Correction,
New York.

Thereby consent to the within commitment.
(Signed) C. D.

That earthly power is but God's
When money ceases to be.

TELEGRAMS.

EUROPEAN AFFAIRS.

LONDON, August 12.
A debate took place in the House of Commons on the subject of affairs in Egypt. Mr. Gladstone said it was inexpedient to make a statement at present. Lord Northbrook had received his instructions. The Anglo-French agreement, he declared, does not now exist.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

PASSED. CANAL.—Stentor, July 14; Antenor, July 25; Agamemnon, Thedyr, and Glenglois, July 31.

The S. S. *Monarch* left Sydney for this port on the 3rd inst.
The S. S. *Odin* Monarch left Singapore for this port on the 6th inst.
The S. S. *Lydia* left Singapore for this port on the 12th inst.

The Government Astronomer reports: The typhoon announced yesterday appears to be travelling N.W.

The steamer *Nampan* has been requisitioned by the French authorities at Haiphong to carry provisions from Thuan-an to the former port for the use of the troops.

ABOUT FIVE days ago, 1,000 troops, drafted from the French army in Tonquin, were despatched from Haiphong in the transport *Tara* for the North, where they will be employed in any subsequent movements of the French against China.

A TELEGRAM was received in Haiphong on the 10th instant from Hui announcing that the King of Annam had been poisoned, and that he died suddenly that he was unable to name his successor. This is the second ruler of this unfortunate country who has, within a few months, been poisoned by his subjects. The position just rendered vacant cannot be called an enviable one.

THE CRUSADE against stray dogs is being carried on with vigour by the Police, who have at present some twenty of the canine tribe in their care. The rule that the dogs be destroyed in three days from the time of seizure unless claimed by the owner is being rigorously enforced. This should afford the community a measure of protection from the attacks of rabid animals which it has not hitherto enjoyed, and also rid the streets of those miserable curs which belong to no one. This wholesome regulation might with beneficial effect remain in force the whole year round instead of only for a month or two in summer time, as it has heretofore done.

A VIOLENT attack was made on a Portuguese watchman named Alves at Lap Sap Wan yesterday. In the course of his duty Alves had occasion to drive away a number of Chinese, who were, contrary to regulations, turning over the deposits of rubbish at Lap Sap Wan with the object of trying to make a find. These people then combined and attacked Alves, who is somewhat old and feeble, in a vigorous and vicious manner. Three of them have been arrested by the Police and charged with the assault. Alves had to be sent to Hospital. The case against his assailants has been remanded.

SAVE THE WAS YAT FO.—On the 10th of August a telegram was received from London stating that the French had taken possession of Keelung and that the unfortunate claim for an indemnity had been reduced to eighty millions francs. China looks upon France as if the latter country were a small boy. When he cries his parents supply him with fruit. If more sympathy is shown to him, he becomes more overbearing. This is a great mistake. If he is not chastised until the blood flows from him, he will not stop crying. At the present time he (the small boy) is crying. Should he not then be chastised?

AMONG the Chinese who have recently arrived from Foochow are some "boys" who have apparently been in the employ of foreigners at that port. The result is that servants in the service of residents in Hongkong have suddenly become possessed of "brothers" who get accommodation in the "brother's" quarters. One of these visitors, being asked the other day why he had left Foochow, thus described the cause and the situation there: "That Frenchman have got big gun, point Chinese; that Chinaman have got big gun, point Frenchman; I no like that pidge; by and bye, suppose I stop that side, make peace die."

THE latest batch of recruits for our European Police Force arrived, under the care of Inspector Swanton, in the Ocean Steamship Company's steamer *Meritor* yesterday. Inspector Swanton left here on nine months' leave of absence in the latter part of 1883, and while at home he was commissioned to engage a number of men to come to Hongkong. These he selected out of a number of volunteers from the Dundee Police Force, which is at present under

the superintendence of Captain Dewar, a gentleman of such experience in police work. The new arrivals are all hardy-looking specimens of the genus Scot, and, judging by outward appearances, should be able to bear the heat of the day in this climate somewhat trying vineyard. Inspector Swanton might have found heavier men, but he could scarcely have picked more wiry-looking ones. The men number eight, and all signed on for five years before the Magistrate to-day.

YESTERDAY afternoon Mr. J. M. Hanlon, the schoolmaster, was the victim of a rather impudent robbery. Some time during the afternoon, he engaged sampan No. 4707 at Douglas Wharf, with a crew consisting of two men and two women, to take him to Kowloon to bathe. When he got into the boat he alleges he had in his possession bank notes, some five and the others of a lesser value, amounting to \$53, a gold watch, a locket, a pencil case and two gold coins. On the way across the harbour he felt the notes were in his trousers' pocket. At Kowloon, he addressed in the boat, and remained in the water about 15 minutes. During his absence from the boat it would seem that one of the women, Krok Atai, was seen by Antonio Luis, one of Mr. Hanlon's pupils, who was also bathing, overhauling Mr. Hanlon's clothes, and putting her hand into his pockets. Mr. Hanlon did not become aware of this until afterwards. Having got into the boat he put on his clothes, quite unconscious of their having been rifled; and it was not until he came to land on the wharf for money to pay the sampan hire that he discovered his loss. By this time one of the men had left the boat. Mr. Hanlon once sent for a constable, who arrested the four boat people. The boat was also searched, but no portion of the missing property was found. In giving his evidence before Mr. Wise this morning, Mr. Hanlon stated that he had received \$90 from the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, and \$50 from another source in the morning. Out of this he had paid away \$45. In reply to Mr. Wotton, who appeared for the accused, Mr. Hanlon said he frequently felt the money in his pocket, and he was sure it was there when he went into the sampan. He had had the watch for 8 years. Mr. Wotton contended there was not sufficient evidence on which to convict the defendants. Mr. Wise held the woman Krok Atai was convicted, on the evidence of the pupil Antonio Luis, of rifling Mr. Hanlon's pockets, and sentenced her to six weeks' hard labour. The other defendants were discharged as there was no evidence of guilt produced against them.

THE *barque E. P. Elfield*, which recently arrived at Victoria from Hongkong with 300 Chinese passengers, struck on a rock in that harbor on June 30th and remained stranded, hard and fast until evening.

IN March last, says the San Francisco *Chronicle*, the Japanese Government contracted with a Newcastle (Eng.) shipbuilding firm for two steel cruisers of 5,000 tons each. Work is already advanced to such an extent that these vessels, which are to be finished within two years, their construction is to be supervised by Sotokichi Hazi, a Japanese who ten years ago was sent to Great Britain by his Government to study naval architecture. Mr. Hazi is now in San Francisco by one of the China steamers. With him are ten assistants, all skilled in naval architecture. He told a *Chronicle* reporter that the contract called for vessels capable of making eighteen knots an hour, with engines of 5,000 horse power. They are to be armed with seven 12-inch guns, each and all will be fitted with the very latest improvements. Armstrong of Newcastle is the builder. The Japanese navy now consists of one ironclad and four armored vessels, to which these gunboats will form a valuable addition.

FOUR out of the eleven Chinamen who are accused of having been concerned in an armed night attack on a sailing junk at Che Wan, on the 3rd instant, have been committed to take their trial at the next Criminal Sessions of the Supreme Court. The case against the remainder of the accused has been remanded for a week.

CHAI ALUNG, who is positively identified by a hawker to have been one of a band of three men who, he alleges, attacked him in a lonely part of the road between Yau-ma-Ti and Kowloon, and robbed him of a string of pearls and his jacket, was yesterday committed for trial at the Criminal Sessions.

THE translation of the communications of the Trans-Pacific to the Foreign Legations, copied in your issue of the 11th from the *North China Daily News*, seems scarcely to do justice to the original, and the original might perhaps have been put in clearer terms. I understand the contention of the Chinese to be somewhat as follows:—

According to the Preliminary Convention (which certainly did contain the expression, in clause II, "the various garrisons on the Northern frontier shall be recalled immediately to the border"), the French were to be recalled three months after the 17th day of the 4th moon to settle in detail the particular borders within which the garrisons were to remove, and the points on these borders where trade was to be carried on. It should have been naturally understood that it was necessary for the French to be recalled three months after the 17th day of the 4th moon to settle in detail the particular borders within which the garrisons were to remove, and the points on these borders where trade was to be carried on. It should have been naturally understood that it was necessary for the French to be recalled three months after the 17th day of the 4th moon to settle in detail the particular borders within which the garrisons were to remove, and the points on these borders where trade was to be carried on.

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insulting the garrison to remain, pending the settlement of the borders.

Now let us have a definite answer to the following questions:—Is the above a correct representation of the facts? Was the possession of Ling-shan contested before the convention? How far is Ling-shan from the outposts of Kwangsi as laid down on the maps? Might not its occupation in the mean time by the Chinese be necessary for the safety of their own territory, whilst the French occupation was established? Would it have been consistent with the friendly relations existing between China and Tong-king, before the French came on the stage, to have a garrison at Ling-shan as a precaution against marauders? Should there not have been a formal delivery by the Supreme Authority of China of stations occupied by Chinese garrisons so near the frontier? In other words, should not the French officer who went to Ling-shan have carried an order from the Imperial Government to deliver the place over to him? How could it be otherwise secured that the lawful occupation of such important stations should be continuous, and no opportunities given to lawless adventurers to disturb the peace on either side?

Yours, &c.

BUSINESS.

Canton.

A GREAT INUNDATION.
(From a Correspondent.)

Canton, August 12th 1884.

Intelligence of a startling nature reached Canton this morning from the Kiang Si province. At Kiang Tak, a chief centre of the pottery manufacture and one of the four great markets of the Empire, an inundation has taken place, causing much loss of life and damage to property. The waters began to rise on the first day of the sixth Chinese month (three weeks since), and in four days had submerged the country, in some places to the depth of 60 or 70 feet. Pottery furnaces, houses and shops were swept away by the flood, and, when the waters began to retire, the whole district was filled with floating corpses too numerous to be taken up and buried. Hundreds of bodies still remain to poison the atmosphere and spread pestilence around. An eye witness reports that from 70 to 80,000 persons have perished by the inundation, and adds that others living on the spot estimate the number of victims to be even greater.

Whilst a great deal has been lately written concerning the benefits arising to the Chinese from a native press, and something has been said, too, in the way of criticism on the tone of the native papers and their antagonistic attitude to foreigners, it is somewhat surprising that one important point has remained unnoticed, namely, that the remunerative circulation of Chinese newspapers is dependent on a wide-spread opinion that the information they contain is for the most part, derived from foreign sources. Newspaper readers in Canton firmly believe that, with the exception of purely Chinese news, all the reports of current events, as well as the leading articles, are inspired by foreigners. Foreign publishers in Hongkong are thought to employ Chinese editors merely as translators, the foreigners supplying the facts, whilst the Chinese clothe them in native dress of a form likely to prove acceptable to the news-reading public.

This suggests a consideration of some importance. Foreigners, whatever their follies or virtues in the eyes of Chinese, are generally credited with being fond of the truth and thoroughly reliable in their written statements. It is not thought possible that they will record in a newspaper "the thing that is not." On this belief in the truthfulness of foreigners the writers in the native newspapers largely trade. Hear my reports are now only taken little account of, even in Canton, but it is only necessary to reply to any person who insinuates that is doubts the authenticity of your version of a story: "The newspaper says so," which is equal to saying the foreigners say so, and therefore the conclusion is that it must be true. One cannot but regret that the unpopularity of foreigners is so much the result of their confidence in the veracity of foreigners, as, to quote their proverb, to "take worthless stones for gems."

Another Chinese proverb was quoted to me lately in illustration of the manner in which Chinese in Canton depend on their foreign neighbours for reliable information of the situation and the plans and movements of the French. "The shrimp is eyes to the jelly-fish," is a saying current amongst the Cantonese. This allusion refers to a fanciful notion that, on the approach of danger, the jelly-fish receives warning by the movements of its small neighbour, or attendant. The Chinese say foreigners are eyes and ears to us at the present juncture. If events transpire at Foochow or elsewhere, to cause uneasiness in Canton, the foreigners will be the first to know and we shall see by the appearance of the foreign settlement whether or not danger threatens. There is no doubt that the presence of foreigners carrying on their usual avocations is, in the highest degree, reassuring to the great majority of people in the city, whilst, on the other hand, the first indications that foreigners are leaving Shumoen would be a signal for fight to thousands of respectable trade-people whose village homes lie, in many instances, at great distances from the city. Then would come the opportunity for which the robber-ruffian fraternity has long been waiting to plunder, in the event of a general exodus, wayfarers, whom they could pounce upon in the act of conveying valuables to places of safety in the country. Our movements are closely watched and the respectable populace only feel secure when foreigners show no signs of alarm.

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Hongkong, July 7, 1884. 1115

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Cargo will be received on board until
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A. McIVER, Superintendent.

Hongkong, August 4, 1884. 1293

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES

MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOTS POSTE FRANCAIS.

STEAM FOR
SAIGON, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA,
COLOMBO, ADEN, SUZ,
PORT SAID,
MEDITERRANEAN AND BLACK
SEA PORTS,
NAPLES, MARSEILLES, AND PORTS
OF BRAZIL, AND LA PLATA;
AND
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ON THURSDAY, the 21st August,
1884, at Noon, the Company's
S.S. "ALLIANCE" will depart for
SAIGON, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA,
COLOMBO, ADEN, SUZ, PORT SAID,
AND CARGO, will leave this Port for the
above places.

Cargo and Specie will be registered for
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periodical service of Europe.

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Noon of 20th August, 1884.

Cargo will be received on board until 4
p.m. Specie and Parcels until 3 p.m. on
the 20th August, 1884. (Parcels are not
to be sent on board; they must be left at
the Agency's Office.)

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I. MARIN,
Acting Agent.

Hongkong, August 9, 1884. 1332

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with Steamers from Shanghai and Japan
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F. E. FOSTER,
Agent.

Hongkong, August 1, 1884. 1309

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Blood may be corrected by the use of
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